

**Project:** 1550 Alberni Street Tower

**Team:** Kengo Kuma & Associates

**Size:** 29450 m<sup>2</sup>

**Location:** VANCOUVER, CANADA



#### **Feature:**

**Project** - Rising above the Vancouver skyline, Kengo Kuma's sculptural 43-storey Alberni tower ushers in a new wave of architectural design for residential high-rises. The Japanese architect, known for his nature-inspired approach, has created a unique curvilinear form that carves out sweeping arcs to preserve the surrounding views. These scooped-out balconies, lined with wood, create an organic rhythm along the façade and connect residents with the outdoors. At ground level, an open-air moss garden and amphitheatre form a welcoming green space that engages the community. The tower's pixelated exterior, featuring glass, aluminum and wood finishes, reflects and filters natural light in an ever-changing display. Every detail embodies Kuma's meticulous Japanese craftsmanship, from the intricate wooden soffits to the suspended kigumi-style sculpture above the lobby. The development sets a new standard for high-density living in Vancouver, seamlessly blending cultural amenities, communal greenspace, and elevated design. As Kuma's first North American residential high-rise, the project pioneers a human-centric approach to skyscrapers defined by connectivity, nature and artistic expression. Alberni tower stands as an iconic sculptural form on Vancouver's horizon, ushering in a new age of livability and sustainability for vertical communities.

**Design Team** - Founded in 1990 by renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, Kengo Kuma & Associates (KKAA) has grown into a leading international architecture practice with offices across Asia and Europe. Kuma established the firm on the principles of openness and creativity, seeking to fuse nature, technology and design. Over the past three decades, KKAA has completed major public and cultural projects around the world, pioneering Kuma's signature style of lightweight construction and extensive use of natural materials. Currently led by Kuma along with partners Yuki Ikeguchi, Masahiko Sato, and Balázs Bognár, KKAA

has over 100 staff working on projects spanning over 40 countries. With studios in Tokyo, Paris, Beijing and Shanghai, the practice continues to push the boundaries of innovative sustainable architecture, designing spaces in harmony with local climate and culture. KAA's sensitive approach integrates buildings with their natural and urban contexts through filtered light, fluid forms and a tactile material palette. From museums to stadiums, Kuma's contextual designs reflect his humanistic philosophy, creating uplifting spaces that dissolve boundaries between nature and architecture.